

Application No. 10/617,221
Amendment dated June 23, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated March 24, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 21, wherein said composite frame member defines one of a front wall and a rear wall of said frame.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 21, wherein said composite frame member further includes a central frame member, said central frame member having two opposite ends, said end portions overlappingly coupled to respective ones of said two opposite ends.

Claims 5 and 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 21, further comprising a plurality of fasteners securing said two frame members to said third frame member.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 21, further comprising:
a seat portion and a backrest portion defined by said frame;
at least one upholstery component attached to said frame; and
at least one cushion supported by said seat portion of said frame.

Claim 9 (canceled)

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Claim 10 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 22, wherein said three frame members each include an end portion, said end portions of said at least three frame members overlappingly coupled to one another.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 22, wherein one of said three frame members comprises a central frame member, said central frame member having opposite ends, said two end frame members overlappingly coupled to respective opposite ends of said central frame member.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 22, wherein said three frame members include end portions, said end portions overlappingly coupled to one another and interlockingly connected to said fourth frame member.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 13, further comprising a plurality of fasteners securing said three frame members to said fourth frame member.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 22, further comprising:
a seat portion and a backrest portion defined by said frame;
at least one upholstery component attached to said frame; and
at least one cushion supported by said seat portion of said frame.

Claims 16 and 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (previously presented): The article of furniture of Claim 23, wherein at least one of said front wall and said rear wall includes at least three said separate frame members, including a

central frame member and two end frame members, said central frame member having opposite ends, said two end frame members overlappingly coupled to respective opposite ends of said central frame member.

Claims 19 and 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (currently amended): An article of seating furniture, comprising:

a rigid supporting frame, said frame including a plurality of planar frame walls, one said frame wall comprising a composite frame member having a long dimension, said frame having a width dimension, said long dimension at least twice said width dimension, said composite frame member including at least two frame members, said two frame members each having an end portion, said two end portions coupled to and partially overlapping one another; and

a third frame member disposed substantially perpendicularly to said long dimension of said composite frame member, said at least two frame members each having their overlapping end portions interlockingly connected to said third frame member, whereby said article of seating furniture may be disassembled and shipped as a ready-to-assemble article of seating furniture in a container which is substantially shorter than said long dimension.

Claim 22 (currently amended): An article of seating furniture, comprising:

a rigid supporting frame including a plurality of planar frame members connected to one another, said frame including a front wall and a rear wall;

at least one of said front wall and said rear wall comprising a composite frame member having a long dimension, said frame having a width dimension, said long dimension at least twice said width dimension, said composite frame member including three said frame members coupled to one another in an end-to-end manner; and

said frame including a fourth frame member disposed perpendicularly to said long dimension, at least two of said three frame members interlockingly connected to said fourth frame member; and

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a plurality of upholstery components attached to said frame, whereby said article of seating furniture may be disassembled and shipped as a ready-to-assemble article of seating furniture in a container which is substantially shorter than said long dimension.

Claim 23 (currently amended): An article of seating furniture, comprising:

a rigid supporting frame including a seat portion, a backrest portion, a front wall, and a rear wall;

at least one of said front wall and said rear wall comprising a composite frame member, said composite frame member including a plurality of separate planar frame members each having an end portion and coupled to one another in an overlapping end to end manner; and

said composite frame member including a ~~longitudinal~~ long dimension, said frame having a width dimension, said long dimension at least twice said width dimension, said frame including a frame member which is disposed perpendicularly to said ~~longitudinal~~ long dimension and interlockingly connected to at least two of said plurality of frame members; and

at least one upholstery component attached to said frame assembly whereby said article of seating furniture may be disassembled and shipped as a ready-to-assemble article of seating furniture in a container which is substantially shorter than said long dimension.